Selected Topics in Law & Economics

1 SWS: Lectures with interactive elements.
Time:

- Tuesday 22nd November 2016, 10:00 – 11:30

- Wednesday 23rd November 2016 13:30 – 16:45

- Thursday 24th November 2016 15:15 – 16:45

- Friday 25th November 2016 10:00 – 11:30

Instructor: Ansgar Wohlschlegel
Course level: Master or PhD
Course language: English
Grading: Coursework (1,500 words).

Course description   The aim of this course is to demonstrate how standard game theoretic and micro-empirical methods can be applied in the economic analysis of two specific aspects of law: Crime and (civil) litigation. The focus is on deriving general results rather than discussing specific details of law in a particular country, so that only basic economic but no legal knowledge is required. After successful participation in this course, students will be able to use economic tools to analyse specific questions in both aspects of law discussed in the course, both in an applied and in an academic context.

1. The Economics of Crime

    - The basic economic model of crime
    - Empirical analysis of crime data
    - Optimal law enforcement

2. Litigation and Settlement

    - Litigation contests
    - Settlement bargaining

Prerequisites   Basic knowledge in game theory and Microeconomics (e.g., Advanced Microeconomics I) and in Econometrics.

Literature   The course is based on three chapters of Polinsky, A.M. and Shavell, S. (2007), *Handbook of Law and Economics, Vol. 1*, North-Holland.